NOTE XIII.

ON TWO NEW BIRDS OF PARADISE

BY

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Some weeks ago the Leyden Museum was kindly presented by Mr. J. Bensbach, of late Resident at Ternate, with two Birds of Paradise which belong to two different, hitherto undescribed, species.

Craspedophora Bruyni, n. sp.

Adult male. Above velvety black with a rich purplish gloss, produced by each feather having a broad glossy purplish subterminal bar, quills black, edged on the outer webs with shining purplish blue, tertiary feathers and upper wing-coverts velvety black, less strongly glossed with purplish than the back, under wing-coverts purplish black; tail black, glossed with purple, the central pair velvety black, narrowly edged with steel-blue; entire head and neck, including chin and upper throat, shining purple, centre of crown greenish steel-blue; a large pectoral shield, covering lower throat, chest and upper breast, black, very richly glossed on lower throat and chest with metallic bluish green, which color is shading off into rich purple on the upper breast; the lateral feathers of this shield are directed outwards; they are very broad and rather broadly tipped with steel-green. The steel-green as well as the purplish gloss on the pectoral shield are produced by the velvet-black feathers being terminally edged with these colors. The pectoral shield is bordered at its lower end by a narrow pectoral bar of oily green, which color is shading off into the purplish brown of the lower breast. Abdomen, flanks and basal half of the long, lateral tufts purplish brown, the terminal half, thighs and under tail-coverts brownish black, vent and inner vanes of some of the lateral tuft-feathers silky white. The lateral tufts are reaching far beyond the tip of the tail, having a length of 27 cm., the shafts of the tuft-feathers are destitute of barbs on their terminal half, and therefore resemble, though very much weaker and not recurved, in some way the shafts in the flank-tufts of *Seleucides niger*. Iris red (Bensbach), bill and feet black. Wing 18,5 cm.; tail 8,5; culmen 6,4; tarsus 4,4.

Habitat: Mounts Arfak, N. W. New Guinea.

This species is, in general appearance and in the shape and size of the bill, closely allied with *C. magnifica*. From this latter it differs, however, in many essential points. The metallic color on the top of the head is steel-blue and confined to the centre of the crown, while in *C. magnifica* it is green and covers the whole head and the occiput; the metallic jugular shield is beginning half-way on the throat only instead of at the chin, and is extending farther down on the breast, shading off into a broad glossy purplish cross-bar, which is wanting in *C. magnifica*, the feathers of this shield are narrower and the metallic color is spread to a greater extent; the shield has, on account of the peculiar structure of the feathers, a velvety appearance and reminds, to a certain extent, the plumage of *Manucodia Comrii*, while in *C. magnifica* the shield is entirely smooth; the long and very broad lateral shield-feathers remind the terminal feathers in the shield of *Seleucides niger*, while they are entirely wanting in *C. magnifica*. Other differences are the white feathers on the vent, the long wire-like shafts of the flank-plumes and the much shorter tail, the central feathers of which are velvety black instead of metallic green; moreover the primaries are obviously narrower and less truncated than in *C. magnifica.*

This species I propose to name, according to the wish of Mr. Bensbach, in honor of the late Mr. Bruyn, who, during a long period, very much increased our knowledge of the Ornis of the Papuasian Region.

Janthothorax, n. g.

This new genus is to be placed near *Craspedophora* on account of its general appearance, its bill and the large flank-tufts; it differs, however, by the first primary being emarginate near the end of the inner web, a characteristic which it has in common with the genera *Astrapia* and *Parotia*, and further by the narrow and very much elongated central pair of tail-feathers, a peculiarity which it has in common with the lately described *Lamprothorax Wilhelminae* Meyer.

Janthothorax Bensbachi, n. sp.

Entire head all round metallic green, top of head and occiput more golden green, hind neck, back, rump and upper wing- and tail-coverts velvety black with a purplish gloss, shining green under a certain light, many of the feathers broadly tipped with ochraceous brown, which possibly will indicate that the specimen has not quite assumed the plumage of the adult bird. Quills earthy brown, faintly glossed with steel-green; tail earthy brown, darker on the outer webs which are narrowly edged with metallic green, central pair of tail-feathers nearly double the length of the outer pairs, narrow and straight, width nearly 1 cm., with both webs equally and regularly developed from the base to the tip, velvety black and richly glossed with metallic green. Chin glossy bluish green, upper throat metallic green like the sides of the head; a rather large gular spot of small scaly feathers of a bronzy green color is surrounded in front and on both sides with purplish bronze; entire chest and breast purplish blue, the feathers on the chest closely set and rounded at the tip, the breast-feathers much longer; under wing-coverts, abdomen, vent and under tail-coverts earthy brown; from the flanks springs a very rich tuft of straight egrettiform feathers, earthy brown on the basal, sooty brown on the terminal half and reaching beyond the outer tail-feathers. The basal half of the feathers in the whole plumage of this bird is earthy brown. Iris red (Bensbach), bill and feet black. Wing 20 cm.; tail 13, central pair 22; culmen from base of skull 4,8; tarsus 4,2.

Habitat: Mounts Arfak, N. W. New Guinea.

This species has its nearest allies in the dark-colored genus *Craspedophora*, and its bill does not differ much in shape and size from that of *C. intercedens*. The distribution of the metallic colors, however, is quite different. A regular breast-shield is wanting, and the flank-tufts, bent downward in *Craspedophora*, are straight. The most striking difference is found in the narrow, straight and very long central tail-feathers, a characteristic which, as already said, it has in common with *Lamprothorax Wilhelminae* Meyer. This latter species, however, is related with *Lophorhina*, and is showing no affinity whatever with *Craspedophora*.

I am much pleased to name this species after Mr. J. Bensbach, who kindly presented our Museum with the two new species of Paradise-birds.

Besides these two species the Leyden Museum recently obtained a third species, also from the Mounts Arfak, which turns out to be the above mentioned

Lamprothorax Wilhelminae A. B. Meyer.

Abhandl. u. Ber. Kgl. Zool. u. Anthrop. Ethnogr. Mus. Dresden, 1894/95, N°. 2 (mit Tafel).

Our bird fully agrees with Dr. Meyer's typical specimen and shows, like the latter, some remnants of the immature plumage. The two long central tail-feathers are straight in our specimen and 14,7 cm. long instead of 13,2 as mentioned by Dr. Meyer. The color of these feathers is inaccurately represented on Dr. Meyer's plate and does not agree with the description, reminding much the color found in some species of *Tanysiptera*, while in reality it is metallic green with a gloss of steel-blue under certain lights.

Leyden Museum, 15 November 1894.

P.S. Just before the present paper was to leave the press, I find that I had entirely overlooked the description and plate of Dr. Oustalet's *Craspedophora Mantoui* in the »Nouvelles Archives du Muséum d'histoire naturelle", 1892, p. 218, pl. XV.

Craspedophora Bruyni mihi (vide antea) is certainly very closely allied with *C. Mantoui*, agreeing with it in the general color of the plumage, the size and shape of the bill, the color on head, throat and jugular shield and especially in the structure of the feathers of this latter. On the other hand it differs, however, in having the vent white instead of uniform with the abdomen, further in the central pair of tail-feathers being not metallic green when viewed from the front-side, in having the tail much shorter (8,5 cm. instead of 12) though it does not show the least remainders of the horny sheaths of young feathers, and in the much longer lateral tufts and especially the very long, wire-like terminal parts of the shafts of the tuft-feathers. As the types of both species appear to be fully adult and in full dress, the above mentioned differences may be considered sufficient to distinguish them from each other.